

Message Text

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17

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EB-07

COME-00 SIL-01 LAB-04 /069 W
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FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7428

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, MX

SUBJ: FURTHER REFLECTION ON ECHEVERRIA AT SAN ANTONIO

TRADE FAIR

REF: MEXICO 11535

1. WHILE REFERENCE LOOKED PRINCIPALLY AT MEXICAN PRESS TREATMENT OF HECKLING INCIDENT DURING ECHEVERRIA VISIT TO SAN ANTONIO, ON BALANCE WE BELIEVE IT IS WORTH NOTING THE CONSIDERABLE AND SUSTAINED EFFORT THAT THE PRESIDENT MADE TO REENFORCE SAGGING MEXICAN TRADE IMAGE IN US, AND WHAT APPEARS FROM HERE TO HAVE BEEN HIS SUCCESS.

2. IN THE MAIN, PRESIDENT STUCK PRIMARILY TO PRIMARY THEME OF VISIT--MEXICAN EXPORT PROMOTION AND EFFORT TO ATTRACT FURTHER INVESTMENT. IN HIS CONTACTS WITH CHICANO GROUPS, HE SUCCESSFULLY STRADDLED THE FENCE, INDICATING HIS INTEREST IN CHICANOS' WELFARE AND APPRECIATION OF GROUP'S ASPIRATIONS AND PROBLEMS, WHILE EMPHASIZING THAT CHICANOS HAD RESPONSIBILITY TO DEAL WITH ISSUES IN US CONTEXT. DURING SEPTEMBER 8 PRESS CONFERENCE, PRESIDENT HANDLED A CONSIDERABLE NUMBER OF POINTED AND POTENTIALLY EMBARRASSING QUESTIONS, INCLUDING SEVERAL ON PESO FLOAT. WHILE NOT ALWAYS FULLY RESPONSIVE, HE REPLIED IN A APPARENTLY SINCERE,
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EVEN-HANDED AND GOOD-NATURED WAY. HE SUCCESSFULLY

HANDLED--THAT IS, BLUNED --A QUESTION
(APPARENTLY SPRINGING FROM ALN RIDING ARTICLE) RE-
GARDING ALLEGED DETERIORATION OF RELATIONS WITH US.

3. ALTHOUGH THE GROUP OF 77 MEETING, INDEPENDENCE DAY,
THIRD WORLD MEETING AND OTHER EVENTS OF THIS WEEK HAVE
PUT SAN ANTONIO IN THE BACKGROUND, PREVAILING IMPRESSION
HERE IS THAT ECHEVERRIA WENT TO SAN ANTONIO DETERMINED TO
PRESENT THE IMAGE OF A RESPONSIBLE, BALANCED PRESIDENT
SEEKING GOOD RELATIONS WITH THE US, AND THAT HIS
EFFORT WAS SUCCESSFUL.
THOMPSON

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